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11/26/1985 - Basketball Off To Good Start

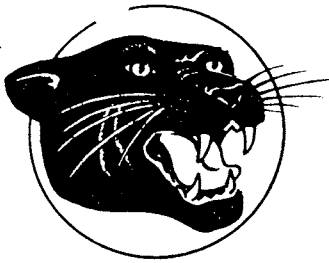
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Panther Sports News

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Nov. 26, 1985

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BB OPP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's basketball Panthers, off to their best start in six years, take a short Thanksgiving break before hitting the road for three games.

EIU plays at Minnesota on Monday (Dec. 2), at Colorado State on Wednesday (Dec. 4) and at Indiana State on Saturday (Dec. 7).

The Panthers have downed Illinois Tech, 96-52, and William Penn, 78-62. The 2-0 beginning is the best since the 1979-80 team opened with four straight wins.

"We were ready to play against Illinois Tech and it showed with a strong offensive performance but then we were a bit sluggish on Monday night (against William Penn) although I'm certainly pleased that we had a chance to play a lot of people in those first two games," said coach Rick Samuels.

* * * * * GAME NOTES * * * * *

THE GAMES: Eastern Illinois University (2-0) at University of Minnesota (2-1), 8:05 CST, Monday, Dec. 2 at Williams Arena, Minneapolis; at Colorado State (2-0), 8:35 MST, Wednesday, Dec. 4, Moby Gym, Ft. Collins, CO.

RADIO: Hear all the action live on Mattoon WLBH-FM, 97 on the dial, with Marc Stuart calling play-by-play . . . pre-game begins 10 minutes prior to tipoff.

SERIES: This is the first time EIU has played either of the teams.

TENTATIVE STARTERS:

<u>EIU</u>			<u>MINNESOTA</u>		
F 20 Jon Collins	6-4	Sr. 22.5	F 21 Terence Woods	6-5	Jr. 13.3
F 42 Mike West	6-8	Fr. 1.0	F 00 Mitch Lee	6-9	So. 14.0
C 00 Kevin Duckworth	7-0	Sr. 21.0	C 44 John Shasky	7-0	Sr. 22.0
G 10 Doug Crook	6-1	Sr. 14.0	G 11 Todd Alexander	5-11	So. 12.0
G 12 Norm Evans	6-0	So. 5.0	G 24 Marc Wilson	6-1	Sr. 21.7

COLORADO ST.

F 30 Ron McCrary	6-7	So. 7.5
F 44 Barry Bailey	6-6	So. 5.5
C 45 Rich Strong	6-9	Jr. 25.0
G 10 John Dudley	6-2	Sr. 5.0
G 25 David Turcotte	6-3	So. 11.0

COLORADO STATE: The Rams are 2-0 with games at Texas Christian (11/30) and home to Northern Colorado (12/2) prior to EIU . . . they have beaten Cal-Northridge (47-46) and Wis-Green Bay (76-66) thus far with center David Strong averaging 25 points and getting a career high 34 vs. Wis-Green Bay . . . guard John Dudley is the only senior in the lineup . . . under 6th year head coach Tony McAndrews, the Rams were 18-12 last season and 9-7 in the Western Athletic Conference . . . Strong is 8th in career scoring and 6th in rebounding at CSU . . . he and Turcotte are the only re-turning starters.

MINNESOTA: The Golden Gophers recently completed a Hawaiian trip with a 2-1 record by defeating West Virginia State (120-106) and Brigham Young-Hawaii (87-80) but losing to Middle Tennessee State (92-79) . . . Minnesota hosts San Francisco State on Friday (11/29) and South Dakota on Saturday (11/30) prior to Eastern . . . 7-0 senior center John Shasky leads the team with 22.0 ppg, 10.7 rpg . . . co-captain Marc Wilson is close with a 21.7 average, and is already among Minnesota's all-time assist leaders with 278 in three years.

20 POINT TWINS: Kevin Duckworth (Dolton-Thornridge) and Jon Collins (East St. Louis-Cahokia), as expected, have jumped out to 20 points averages after two games . . . Duckworth, with a career high 24 vs. IIT and 18 vs. William Penn, is averaging 21 p/game while Collins is at 22.5 with 20 and 25 point performances.

LINE'EM UP: The Panthers have gotten off to a hot start at the free throw line . . . EIU has hit 34-40 for 85% in the first two games . . . Duckworth is the most accurate connecting on all 12 attempts.

SEVEN IN A ROW: Dating back to the last five games of the '85 season, the Panthers have now won seven in a row . . . that's the most consecutive wins since the 1977-78 team won nine straight near the end of the year enroute to its 21-10 third place finish in the NCAA II national tournament.

SAMUELS SIZE: "The road trip to Minnesota and Colorado State will obviously be a real challenge . . . but we believe it will give the veterans an opportunity to assess their talents against that level of competition, and that they will be particularly motivated to play at their peak . . . Minnesota has some seven-footers on the team so improved board play is a must if we're to contend with them . . . but we're confident the competition will better prepare us for conference action down the road."

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL STATISTICS (2-0)

NAME	G(GS)	MIN	FGM	FGA	PCT	FTM	FTA	PCI	REB	AVE	A	ST	B	PF(D)	TO	PTS	AVE	HI
Kevin Duckworth	2(2)	64	15	26	.577	12	12	1.000	26	13.0	2	2	3	3	6	42	21.0	24(IIT)
Jon Collins	2(2)	62	18	30	.600	9	12	.750	17	8.5	5	-	-	2	8	45	22.5	25(WP)
Doug Crook	2(2)	66	12	26	.461	4	4	1.000	9	4.5	8	3	-	5	2	28	14.0	14(IIT)
Norm Evans	2(2)	48	5	9	.555	0	1	.000	7	3.5	8	5	3	4	4	10	5.0	10(IIT)
Jay Taylor	2	45	10	19	.526	5	5	1.000	3	1.5	8	3	-	1	6	25	12.5	17(WP)
Jerry Strickland	1	5	2	3	.667	2	2	1.000	2	2.0	2	1	-	1	1	6	6.0	6(IIT)
Dave Vance	2	27	2	3	.667	-	-	-	3	1.5	4	-	-	-	2	4	2.0	4(IIT)
Ron Duckworth	2	14	3	7	.428	-	-	-	5	2.5	-	-	1	-	1	6	3.0	4(IIT)
Todd Emro	1	2	1	2	.500	2	2	1.000	2	2.0	1	-	-	-	-	4	4.0	4(IIT)
Drew Beck	2	18	1	2	.500	-	-	-	4	2.0	3	-	-	-	-	2	1.0	2(IIT)
Mike West	2(2)	47	1	5	.200	0	2	.000	8	4.0	3	-	1	4	3	2	1.0	2(WP)
Don Peavey	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Team Rebounds 12																		
EIU TOTALS	2	400	70	132	.530	34	40	.850	98	49.0	44	14	8	20	33	174	87.0	96(IIT)
OPP TOTALS	2	400	53	144	.368	8	12	.750	62	31.0	28	18	5	15(2)	29	114	57.0	62(WP)

Dead Ball Rebounds: EIU - 2 OPP - 1

EIU INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

FGA	16	Kevin Duckworth (Illinois Tech)
		Jon Collins (William Penn)
FG	11	Kevin Duckworth (Illinois Tech)
FTA	10	Kevin Duckworth (William Penn)
FT	10	Kevin Duckworth (William Penn)
FG%	.687	(11-16) Kevin Duckworth (Illinois Tech)
FT%	1.000	(10-10) Kevin Duckworth (William Penn)
REB	16	Kevin Duckworth (Illinois Tech)
ASST	6	Jay Taylor (Illinois Tech)
		Norm Evans (William Penn)
ST	4	Norm Evans (Illinois Tech)
PTS	25	Jon Collins (William Penn)

EIU TEAM HIGHS

76	Illinois Tech
41	Illinois Tech
21	William Penn
20	William Penn
.539	(41-76) Ill. Tech
.952	(20-21) Wm. Penn
55	Illinois Tech
23	Illinois Tech
8	Illinois Tech
96	Illinois Tech

EIU TEAM LOWS

56	William Penn
29	William Penn
19	Illinois Tech
14	Illinois Tech
.578	(29-56) Wm. Penn
.737	(14-19) Ill. Tech
43	William Penn
21	William Penn
6	William Penn
78	William Penn

OPP INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

FGA	16	Pat O'Bryant (William Penn)
FG	7	Marcus Brown (William Penn)
FTA	2	five players
FT	2	four players
FG%	.600	(6-10) Terry Hendershott (William Penn)
FT%	1.000	(2-2) Cary Musser, Keith Evans (Illinois Tech)
REB	7	Cary Musser (Illinois Tech), Pat O'Bryant (William Penn)
ASST	8	Rory Brown (Illinois Tech)
ST	4	Carlos Carter (William Penn)
PTS	14	Terry Hendershott, Marcus Brown (William Penn)

OPP TEAM HIGHS

78	William Penn
29	William Penn
7	William Penn
4	Ill. Tech, Wm. Penn
.372	(29-78) William Penn
.800	(4-5) Illinois Tech
35	William Penn
14	Ill. Tech., Wm. Penn
11	William Penn
62	William Penn

OPP TEAM LOWS

66	Illinois Tech
24	Illinois Tech
5	Illinois Tech
4	Ill. Tech, Wm. Penn
.364	(24-66) Ill. Tech.
.571	(4-7) William Penn
27	Illinois Tech
14	Ill. Tech, Wm. Penn
7	Illinois Tech
52	Illinois Tech

SEASON SUMMARY

At Home: 2-0 AMCU-8: 0-0
On Road: 0-0 AMCU-8 Home: 0-0